

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6B, 7 and 8 with the enclosed replacements. No new matter is added.

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire November 13, 2004. In the present amendment, Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 17 are amended, Claims 2 and 16 are cancelled, and Claim 18 is added. Claims 1, 3-15 and 17-18 are now pending.

Applicants appreciate the teleconference that was held with the Examiner on October 19, 2004. No agreement was reached during that teleconference.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

In Paragraph 2 of the present Office Action, Figures 2, 3, 4, 8, 6B, 7 and 8 are objected to since reference numbers 200, 300, 400, 500, 6000, 700 and 800 are not found in the specification. Proposed amended replacement figures are enclosed herein.

In Paragraph 4 of the present Office Action, Figure 2 is objected to for failure to include descriptive detail in elements 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212 and 220. Such detail has now been added to this figure in the proposed amended replacement figure.

In Paragraph 5 of the present Office Action, Figures 6A and 6B are objected to, since the specification references them respectively as Figures 6-a (instead of 6A) and 6-b (instead of 6B). The specification is now amended to reflect the properly corresponding reference numbers.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101 and 112

In Paragraph 7 of the present Office Action, Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Similarly, Claim 16 is rejected in Paragraph 9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claim 16 is now cancelled, and thus these rejections are moot.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

In Paragraph 10 of the present Office Action, Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Morgan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,799,286 – “*Morgan*”). In Paragraph 12 of the present Office Action, Claims 2-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Morgan* in view of Reed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,717 – “*Reed*”).

Morgan teaches an activity-based management system that associates costs associated with different enterprise sub-entities. *Reed* teaches computer communication between a provider and a consumer.

Applicants do not believe that *Morgan* or *Reed* teach or suggest all of the claimed features of the present invention. For example, with reference to exemplary Claim 1, the cited prior art does not teach or suggest:

- a tracking process for identifying an issue in the product development projects, the tracking process being an internal project management tracking process that reports a status of current risks according to a priority of a risk issue and a target date for resolution of the risk issue;

- a daily headlights reporting process for providing communications among members of the organization, wherein the daily headlights reporting process includes a headlight report being generated by a team leader, the headlight report including achievements of a day, changes to a project plan, assistance needed for a project, and potential catastrophes associated with the project, and wherein a quality management office consolidates the headlight reports daily into a single executive report, and wherein issue records are created daily from the consolidated headlight reports to initiate corrective actions to the project, and wherein the executive reports are consolidated weekly into a summary report. (See Pages 31-32 of the present Specification.)

With reference to exemplary Claim 3, the cited prior art does not teach or suggest:

evaluating the contribution of a member of an organization, wherein the evaluation of the contribution of the member is based on a difficulty of a software project, and wherein the difficulty of the software project is based on a software timing, whether pre-existing documentation exists for the project, a scope of use of software being developed by the software project, a complexity of the software, and a number of interfaces being used by the software. (See Page 67 of the present Specification.)

With reference to Claim 11, the cited prior art does not teach or suggest “classifying a document and assigning a document review workflow to the document according to whether an originator of the document is a member of the organization.” *Morgan* is cited at Col. 5, lines 28-31 for teaching “activity names or codes are collected in a master activity dictionary (classifying a document), which functions as a glossary of activities for all sites...”) – Page 14 of the present Office Action. However, neither cited prior art teaches or suggests classifying a document and assigning a document review workflow to the document according to whether the originator of the document is a member of the organization.

With reference to Claim 18, the cited prior art does not teach or suggest “determining a cause of a defect...by determining if one or more events occurred, the one or more events being from a group of events that includes a miscommunication between members of a software development team, a software transcription error, and inadequate training of the members of the software development team. (See Page 86 of the present Specification.)

As the cited prior art does not teach or suggest all of the elements of the presently pending claims, Applicants respectfully request that all pending rejections be withdrawn, and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

CONCLUSION

Applicants now respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

No extension of time for this response is believed to be necessary. However, in the event an extension of time is required, that extension of time is hereby requested. Please charge any fee associated with an extension of time as well as any other fee necessary to further the prosecution of this application to **IBM CORPORATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. 09-0457**.

Respectfully submitted,



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